(c) whether the sanctioned grant has been released to the Ashram directly or through the State Government or district administration; and

(d) whether the Ashram has submitted utilization certificates?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) The Ministry has not sanctioned grant to Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram. However, the Ministry has extended financial assistance to Akhil Bhartiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh during 2000-01 and 2002-03 only under the Central Sector Scheme of Development of Primitive Tribal Groups as per details given below:

Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)	Purpose for which grant released
2000-01	4.81	Health & Education Programme
2001-02	Nil	Nil
2002-03	5.78	Mobile Dispensary

(c) As per the provisions of the scheme, grant in aid is released directly to the organization on the basis of the inspection report of the District Collector and recommendation of the State Govt.

(d) The Akhil Bhartiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh has submitted utilization of Rs. 3.80 lakhs out of 4.81 lakhs released during 2000-01. The utilization certificate for the balance amount is yet to be received.

Grants-in-aid to various organizations

620. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the organizations which have been given grants in-aid by Government during the last three years;

(b) the areas of their operation and the amount disbursed to them during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the purpose for which this grant-in-aid was given to these organizations and also the community and antecedents of these organizations?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The information as to the names of the organizations funded, area of operation of the projects, amounts released during the last three years, State-wise and Year-wise and the purpose of grant is contained in the Annual Reports of the Ministry for the year 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 which is already available in the Parliament Library. Besides, the Ministry has printed a NGO-Directory which contains names and complete addresses of the organizations including their presidents and the secretaries, location of the projects and amounts released from 1997-98 onwards, State-wise and year-wise.

Lavana Caste as ST

†621. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assembly of Himachal Pradesh has unanimously passed a resolution for declaration of the people belonging to Lavana Caste of Himachal Pradesh and engaged in cow rearing as Scheduled Caste;

(b) whether the Assembly of Himachal Pradesh and its M.Ps. have many times requested orally and in writing to Government that the people of Lavana Caste be declared as Scheduled Caste; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the latest position of the same?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The Ministry has not received any such information. The Government of India have not received any proposal of inclusion of Lavana Caste in the list of Scheduled Caste of Himachal Pradesh. However, the Ministry has received a proposal for inclusion of Lavana caste in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Himachal Pradesh. The proposal has been processed as per the modalities approved by the Government of India on 15th June, 1999.

Literacy among tribal girls

622. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.